

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please replace the pending claims with the following claim listing:

1. **(Currently Amended)** Electrical equipment comprising a chamber in which an electrical appliance is housed, and a multi-stage breather filter ~~[[is]]~~ attached to the chamber, the chamber being sealed except for communication through the breather filter, the filter comprising a filter housing to define an airflow passageway, the filter housing extending from a proximal end to a spaced apart distal end, the proximal end being positioned such that air flowing out from the chamber through the airflow passageway flows through the proximal end before arriving at the distal end, the airflow passageway ~~having an air inlet at one end and an outlet at the other, the outlet being coupled to the chamber,~~ the passageway including a series of filter stages separate from each other, the filter stages including:

- a) a porous membrane
- b) activated carbon, and
- c) silica gel,

wherein the porous membrane is positioned ~~adjacent the air inlet at the distal end,~~ the silica gel is positioned ~~adjacent the outlet at the proximal end,~~ and the activated carbon is positioned between the porous membrane and the silica gel, whereby in use heat generated by the electrical appliance causes air flow through the filter and also dries moisture collected by the filter.

2-3. **(Canceled)**

4. **(Previously Presented)** The electrical equipment according to claim 1 wherein the electrical appliance is a light element.

5. **(Previously Presented)** The electrical equipment according to claim 1 wherein the porous membrane is fabricated from PTFE.

6-9. **(Canceled)**

10. **(Previously Presented)** The electrical equipment according to claim 4 wherein the porous membrane is fabricated from PTFE.

11. **(Previously Presented)** The electrical equipment according to claim 1 wherein the filter stages are designed to minimize pressure differentials and ensure low resistance to air flow.

12. **(Currently Amended)** An apparatus comprising:
a chamber configured to house an electrical appliance;
a multi-stage breather filter attached to the chamber, the chamber being sealed except for communication through the breather filter, the breather filter comprising:

a housing that bounds an airflow passageway extending from a proximal end to a spaced apart distal end, the proximal end being positioned such that air flowing out from the chamber through the airflow passageway flows through the proximal end before arriving at the distal end; and

a plurality of sequential filter stages disposed within the airflow passageway, the filter stages being separate from each other, the filter stages comprising the following separate stages in order from the distal end to the proximal end:

- a) a porous membrane,
- b) activated carbon, and
- c) silica gel, ~~the silica gel being disposed adjacent to and openly exposed to the chamber.~~

13. **(Currently Amended)** An electrical device comprising:
an apparatus according to claim [1] 12; and
an electrical appliance disposed within the chamber.

14. **(Previously Presented)** The electrical device according to claim 13, wherein the electrical appliance comprises a light element.

15. **(Previously Presented)** The electrical device according to claim 13, wherein the electrical device comprises a vehicle headlight.

16. **(Previously Presented)** The electrical equipment according to claim 1 wherein the silica gel is openly exposed to the chamber.

17. **(New)** An apparatus comprising:

a chamber configured to house an electrical appliance;

a multi-stage breather filter attached to the chamber, the chamber being sealed except for communication through the breather filter, the breather filter comprising:

a housing that bounds an airflow passageway extending outward from the chamber from a proximal end to a spaced apart distal end, the proximal end being positioned such that air flowing out from the chamber through the airflow passageway flows through the proximal end before arriving at the distal end; and

a plurality of sequential filter stages disposed within the airflow passageway, the filter stages being separate from each other, the filter stages comprising the following separate stages in order from the proximal end to the distal end:

- a) silica gel,
- b) activated carbon, and
- c) a porous membrane,

wherein the silica gel is openly exposed to the chamber.

18. **(New)** The electrical equipment according to claim 17 wherein the porous membrane is fabricated from PTFE.

19. **(New)** An electrical device comprising:

an apparatus according to claim 18; and

an electrical appliance disposed within the chamber.

20. **(New)** The electrical device according to claim 19, wherein the electrical appliance comprises a light element.

21. **(New)** The electrical device according to claim 19, wherein the electrical device comprises a vehicle headlight.